The opinion in support of the decision being entered today was <u>not</u> written for publication and is not binding precedent of the Board.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte DOUGLAS M. JENNINGS

MAY 3 0 2006

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

MAILED

Appeal No. 2006-1974 Application 09/696,458

Remand to the Examiner

This application was electronically received in at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on February 6, 2006. A Docketing Notice was mistakenly mailed and an Appeal Number assigned on May 15, 2006.

A review of the application has revealed that an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was scanned into the electronic file and available for viewing by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on May 5, 2006. It is not apparent from the record that the examiner has considered the statement submitted nor notified applicant of why the submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

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Application 09/696,458

Accordingly, the application is returned to the examiner for consideration of this IDS and for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS

AND INTERFERENCES

Bv

Dale M. Shaw

Deputy Appeals Administrator

(571) 272-9797

DMS/cam

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